

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (MANSFIELD, SENATOR M.), JA, KN, KS, PFOR

SUBJ: SENATOR MANSFIELD'S CONVERSATION WITH LDP DIETMAN UTSUNOMIYA

SUMMARY: LDP DIETMAN UTSUNOMIYA TOLD SENATOR MANSFIELD IN A CONVERSATION JULY 13 THAT NORTH KOREAN PREMIER KIM IL-SUNG WISHES TO DE-ESCALATE THE MILITARY BUILDUP ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND REACH A COMPREHENSIVE POLITICAL SETTELEMENT BEGINNING WITH A PEACE TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES. BRIEFING THE SENATOR ON HIS JULY 1975 TALKS WITH KIM, UTSUNOMIYA STATED HIS OWN BELIEF THAT A NORTH-SOUTH DETENTE IN KOREAN MUST PRECEDE A REDUCTION OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN JAPAN, BECAUSE JAPANESE FEAR TWO LARGE KOREAN ARMIES MAY POTENTIALLY BE USED AGAINST THEM. END SUMMARY.

1. UPON INVITATION OF FRANK VALEO, SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND MEMBER OF SENATOR'S PARTY, LDP DIETMAN TAKUMA UTSUNOMIYA (A MEMBER OF THE LDP'S LIBERAL WING AND A LONG-TIME ASSOCIATE OF PRIME MINISTER MIKI AND A MEMBER OF HIS FACTION) MET FOR 90 MINUTES WITH SENATOR MANSFIELD ON JULY 13 AND REPORTED THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS JULY 1975 DISCUSSIONS WITH NORTH KOREAN PREMIER KIM IL SUNG.

2. RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT KIM'S MILITARY INTENTIONS, UTSUNOMIYA QUOTED PREMIER AS SAYING A DE-ESCALATION OF FORCES NECESSARY BECAUSE PRESENT POSTURE (WITH 400,000 MEN MOBILIZED) IS FINANCIALLY PROHIBITIVE AND SUCH A USE OF MANPOWER DETRIMENTAL TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. KIM COMPLAINED THAT HIS SUGGESTION OF ROK-DPRK

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SUBCOMMITTEE TO WORK FOR DETENTE WAS VETOED OUT-OF-HAND BY ROK PRE-

SIDENT PARK. MOREOVER, BELLIGERENT RHETORIC OF AMERICAN DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND FAILURE OF MIKI AND FORD TO MODIFY ANTI-DPRK POSTURE OF SATO-NIXON COMMUNIQUE MADE HIM PESSIMISTIC ABOUT CHANCES FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS.

3. CONCERNING POLITICS OF A SETTLEMENT, UTSUNOMIYA REPORTED KIM WANTS FIRST TO SIGN PEACE TREATY WITH U.S., BECAUSE PARK REGIME TOO INTRANSIGENT. AFTER ESTABLISHING GOOD FAITH WITH AMERICA, KIM WOULD SEEK TO USE LVERAGE TO INDUCE ROK TO SIGN PEACE TREATY ALSO. THEREAFTER, KIM ENVISAGES MUTUAL DE-ESCALATION ON BOTH SIDES – TO PERHAPS 100,000 MEN FOR EACH KOREAN ARMY, WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM TENSE BORDER TO REAR AREAS AND POSSIBLE INSERTION OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE OF NEUTRALIST FOREIGN OBSERVERS ALONG DMZ.

4. ON STATUS OF ROK, KIM WOULD ACCEPT AN INDEPENDENT, EVEN CAPITALIST SOUTH, BUT DESIRES DECREASE IN PRESENT LEVEL OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC INVOLVEMENT. A "TWO-KOREA" FORMULA IN FOREIGN RELATIONS WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE, AND KIM WOULD NOT INSIST ROK ALLIES SEVER TIES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH PYONGYANG.

5. ASKED HOW HE WOULD VIEW REDUCTION OF AMERICAN FORCES IN JAPAN, UTSUNOMIYA SAID HE DESIRES CONTINUATION OF U.S. PRESENCE, BECAUSE OUR ROLE IS KEY TO JAPANESE SECURITY UNTIL TENSION OF KOREAN PENINSULA EASED. JAPANESE WORRY, HE SAID, THAT HFQDPNP# KOREANS IN

ARMS MIGHT POSSIBLY BE TURNED AGAINST JAPAN, BUT IF TWO ARMIES WERE DEACTIVATED OR REDUCED, JSDF SHOULD BE ABLE TO MEET ANY REALISTIC THREATS TO SECURITY.

6. UTSUNOMIYA PROMISED TO PROVIDE SENATOR MANSFIELD WITH THE TEXT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH KIM.

HODGSON

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

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